

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated November 15, 2007, the Examiner has presented a new argument rejecting Claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). By this paper, the specification has been amended to correct certain minor informalities. It is respectfully requested that the claims be reconsidered. For the reasons set forth below, Claims 1-30, the claims remaining in this application, are respectfully considered patentable over the cited prior art and should now be allowed.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 16, 18-22, 24, 29, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pitts (US 6345168) in view of and Coleman. (US 4714978); Claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pitts (US 6345168) in view of Myers (US 6504556) and Coleman (US 4714978); Claims 2-5, 7-10, 14, 15, 17, and 25-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pitts (US 6345168) and Coleman. (US 4714978) as applied to Claims 1, 6, 13, and 20, and further in view of Myers (US 6504556); and Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pitts (US 6345168) and Coleman (US 4714978) as applied to Claim 20, and further in view of Pineau, et al. (US 5257097). Applicants' claimed invention, as previously discussed and fully described in the specification, is directed to a programmable detach charging system where the running of the detach charger is dependent upon the feeding of certain paper (or other medium) weights, and the value of the paper weight can be used to readily adjust charger run time to provide maximum reduction in charger run time in order to maximize charger efficiency by reducing contamination thereof. This feature provides a significant advance over the cited prior art, or any other prior art known to Applicants.

The primary reference relied on by the Examiner is the patent to Pitts. The Pitts reference is directed to changing the DC bias during the transfer step of a xerographic printer. As acknowledged by the Examiner, the Pitts reference does not disclose expressly turning the power to the charger on and off. The Examiner has cited the Coleman reference as teaching turning the power to a charger on and off. However, the Coleman reference is directed to a circuit for supplying power to an AC corotron to maintain a constant corotron current. Therefore, there is no teaching which would enable one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the cited references. Furthermore, there is no teaching in the Coleman reference that turning the charger on

and off is done in response to a sheet weight of a paper sheet fed to a printing apparatus as specifically recited in the claims, and which forms the crux of Applicants' invention. Accordingly, even if *arguendo*, the combination of the Pitts and Coleman references could be deemed proper, it would still not teach, or in any way render obvious, Applicants' claimed invention of a programmable detach charging system where the running of the detach charger is dependent upon the feeding of certain paper (or other medium) weights, and the value of the paper weight can be readily adjusted to provide maximum reduction in charger run time. The remaining, cited secondary references to Myers and Pineau et al. have been reviewed but cannot be interpreted in any way to supply the basic teachings noted as missing from the primary references. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' invention as now claimed would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art when taken alone or in any proper combination. Therefore, Claims 1-30, as amended, should now be allowed.

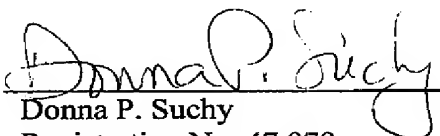
Applicants are not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.99.

This Application is now believed to be in condition for favorable reconsideration and early allowance, and such actions are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company, Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

Respectfully submitted,

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